



Mark A. Gentry

FEB 27, 1962 - JUN 13, 2013



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Mark A. Gentry

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Decatur-Mark A. Gentry, 51, of Decatur, passed away Thursday, June 13, 2013 in his home.

Mark was born February 27, 1962 in Decatur, the son of Al Gentry and Patricia and Russell Myles (Church) Foster. He proudly served his country in the USMC. He was employed with Menards. Mark enjoyed softball, and riding his motorcycle.

He leaves behind his son Dalton Gentry, daughters Teri Franklin and Toni Gentry, brothers Rusty Foster and Anthony Gentry, sister Kelly (Joseph) Miller, half brother and sister Randy and Marcie, granddaughters Makenzie, Jenna, Jalyn, and Addisyn, special friend Stacia Shay and her son Clayton, and several nephews.

He was preceded in death by his parents.

Services to celebrate Mark's life will be 5 p.m. Friday, June 21, 2013 at New Beginnings Church of God, 2606 IL 121 Decatur.

The family of Mark A. Gentry is being served by the Graceland/Fairlawn Funeral Home, 2091 N. Oakland Ave. Decatur, IL. Please view the online obituary, send condolences, and share memories at www.gracelandfairlawn.com.



Tribute Wall

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TG

Toni Gentry posted:

The moment that you died my heart was torn in two, one side filled with heartache , the other died with you.I often lie awake at night, when the world is fast asleep, and take a walk down memory lane, with tears upon my cheeks.Remembering you is easy, I do it everyday, but missing you is heartache that never goes away.I hold you tightly within my heart and there you will remain. Untill the joyous day arrives. that we will meet again. ~ UnknownIts been one year and I still reach for my phone, it does not get any easier, but you learn to live life with part of your heart gone! RIP DadLove and Miss you dearly!!!TonJenna RennaJalyn June Bug

June 13 at 11:49 AM

TK

Tom Kerschnrtr posted:

Lit a candle in memory of Mark A. Gentry

June 21 at 11:10 AM

AT

Adam Troxell posted:

Mark and I became friends as teenagers. He always had that smile....for anyone and everyone. After graduation, we lost touch, but I did try to see him when my ship pulled in to Guam.As an adult, I didn't realize Mark and I attended the same church, until I saw that smile again. It was good to get reacquainted.My heart goes out to his family and friends. Only the grace and peace of the Lord can provide comfort during your time of grief. God bless you, and may His peace fill you to overflowing.Adam Troxell – W-L Class of '80 – U.S. Navy(Retired)

June 21 at 3:25 AM

TG

Toni Gentry posted:

To all- its difficult indeed to put our thoughts into words, but we very much appreciate your kind and helpful words and deeds at a time when these things mean so much.-Marks youngest daughterToni Gentry

June 19 at 5:53 PM



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GC

Greg Clucas posted:

Tom, Thanks for sharing that story about running into Mark while you were stationed on the Rock. I was there in 1984 at Camp Foster. I always wondered if you guys ran into each other. Send me an email at GClu787@aol.com and keep in touch.

June 19 at 6:19 AM

TK

Tom Kerschnrtr posted:

Nice comments Greg. Mark didnt talk me into joining the Corps but he did have advice for me before I went to boot camp. When I was TAD to Hansen for the range, I ran into him on libo outside Hansen. Was way cool to see a buddy from home while on the "Rock". I agree with you on the world will a lesser place without Mark. Semper Fi to Mark and us.

June 18 at 11:21 AM

RM

Rhonda Mayhugh posted:

Words cannot express our heartfelt sympathy. The family is in our prayers. Jim and Rhonda Mayhugh

June 18 at 7:35 AM

SP

Scott Powell posted:

I will always remember Mark by that smile he always had on. He was so much fun to be around in school. I am sorry to hear of his passing. My prayers with the family.

June 18 at 6:22 AM



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GC

Greg Clucas posted:

Mark and I became friends when we were about 10 years old. I remember once when we came up with the brilliant idea to skip the bus and walk the 8 miles home from school. When we got to my house my mom whipped me and threatened to whip Mark. I think that was the only time that I saw fear on his face. Over the following years growing up we had some good times. As kids we bucked bales of hay at my grandparents farm and walked beans during the summer to earn some spending money. We had some grand adventures to say the least. Mark was the guy who talked me into joining the Marines. I hope you enjoyed getting promoted for signing me up.:-) Thanks for looking me up at Twentynine Palms during that CAX in 1983. It was a big morale booster to see someone from back home. You were stationed at Camp Lejeune if I remember correctly and I was in the stumps. Also thanks for not gloating that you were a Sergeant and I was a Corporal. My heart goes out to Mark's family. The world is a lesser place without Mark in it. Semper Fi my Marine Corps brother and friend. You will always be remembered and sorely missed.

June 18 at 6:15 AM

LJ

Lea Ann Blasingame Juska posted:

One of my earliest memories of Mark is from junior high, but I can't ...remember which year. It was the last day of school – report card day – and Mark and Rusty had rode horses to school. Lots of kids were standing out in front of the junior high admiring the horses (because, after all, nobody else had ridden a horse to school to pick up their report card), when all of the sudden Mark and Rusty got into a fight. They were going at it pretty good when Mr. Miller, the junior high principal, grabbed them both and marched them into the office and paddled them! Who else but Mark Gentry could earn a paddling on report card day? Mark was always a lively character and full of spunk! The last time I saw him was at our 30th class reunion, competing in the Limbo contest – he was still that kid full of spunk! WLHS Class of 1980 has lost a very special classmate and friend who won't be forgotten.

June 18 at 5:12 AM

KW

Kathy Williams posted:

In high school, there was never a time that I can remember seeing Mark without a smile on his face. When I worked at Bergners at the end of high school and beginning of college, Mark always thought it was hysterical to sneak up among the racks to startle me if I was at work, even if I saw his huge grin beforehand! When Cindy was with him, I think it was even more of a mission to see if he could get her to give him "THAT look"!! Thank you, Mark, for including me in your joy of life and for the fond memories. May you rest in peace, and may the smiles from the memories bring peace to your family in the days to come. I'm glad to have called you my friend. Kathy Williams- WLHS Class of 80

June 18 at 4:13 AM



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BT

Becky Troxell posted:

I am so sorry for what you are all going through. No words can ease the pain. Please know you are all in my thoughts and prayers. I will never forget when Mark called me to tell me my van was on fire! I kept telling him to quit messing with me. He said "no really it just burned up". I really didn't believe me because he was always kidding around.

June 18 at 3:15 AM

TK

Tom Kerschnrtr posted:

I was terribly saddened to hear the news about Mark's passing. A good thing about going to a small school is one gets to know everyone. Remember a lot of good times in High School spent with Mark. Living away from the area, I haven't seen Mark in many years. Mark and I shared a common thread of graduating W-Burg together and then both of us serving in the Marines. Though I haven't seen Mark much over the years, I would think about him from time to time. It was a real shock to me when I found he had passed. His enthusiasm, smile, and at times being mischievous (in our high school years) will always be remembered. To family and friends, I offer my sincerest condolences and God's graces bestowed upon all. RIP Mark.

June 17 at 11:11 AM

LO

Lori posted:

You left us way to soon, always in my heart.

June 17 at 8:09 AM

JD

Jane Dobrinsky posted:

I so enjoyed working with Mark as he was always with a smile on his face and had a funny story to share. He lived down around the block from me and when out riding would stop by to shoot the bull or have a beer. You are gone way to soon bud but I will always remember that smile on your face and the roar of your Harley. RIP my friend!

June 17 at 7:39 AM



Memories only last if you share them

Join us in honoring Mark by contributing to a collection of shared memories.



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